

THE ALABAMA

Composite



DEDICATED TO THE CONCERNS
OF GENERAL DENTISTS IN ALABAMA

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Editor's Notes

Bill Chesser, DMD, MAGD

ADHP – ALABAMA'S DENTAL JEWEL

Alabama has a unique program in which Dental Hygienists can be trained in private practice dental offices across our state. Many of the newer graduates may not be aware that this is the only program in the entire nation which boasts this method of training licensed Hygienists.

Of course, there are several Hygiene schools throughout the state which offer this training. The beauty of the **ADHP (Alabama Dental Hygiene Program)** is that a student can earn a salary while being trained in the office of a Dentist/Sponsor, thereby gaining practical experience each working day.

The only downside of this program is that these licenses may only be used in the State of Alabama. If a prospective hygiene student plans to practice out of state, then a two-year school will be a better choice in career planning.

The ADHP has been actively effective in our state, undergoing constant upgrading through the years, since **1919**. Originally, the program was termed a "preceptorship", but this term is no longer appropriate. Those persons who successfully complete the program are **Registered Dental Hygienists, (RDH)**, eligible for licensure in the State of Alabama.

There is ample proof that the citizens of the state have benefitted from this program, and the state has continued to maintain a higher ratio of qualified RDH's to licensed dentists than any other state in the nation. In my opinion, more preventive dentistry is found here than anywhere else in the country.

No other state can equal Alabama in overcoming a Dental Hygienist shortage. Any licensed Dentist, no matter how remotely located is his or her practice, can have available a fully-trained RDH. Prospective students must be at least **18 years old** and have earned a **high school education** or a **GED** equivalent. In addition, the candidate must have **two years' experience as a Dental Assistant**.

The **Sponsor** must oversee the progress of the student throughout the year of instruction, remaining fully involved in the process. Each Sponsor must attend a **Certification Seminar**, as well as at least one **lecture course at UAB**, accompanied by his or her student. **CE credit** is awarded the Dentist for these courses.

The ADHP is directed by the **Board of Dental Examiners (BDE)**, in conjunction with the **UAB School of Dentistry**. This is no easy undertaking, and students must work hard to complete the instruction successfully. After earning passing grades in the program, candidates must then pass a licensing exam.

Until 2012, the BDE conducted this exam. However, state Auditors advised that the BDE should not conduct an exam on its own program. In 2012, the BDE contracted with the **Council on Interstate Testing Agency (CITA)**, that now administers the same licensing exam which hygiene candidates take anywhere in the country. In **2015**, hygiene candidates in Alabama earned a **100% passing rate** in CITA testing. **WOW!**

The ADHP is successful, and we must do everything possible to improve and protect it. Here is yet another reason each of us can be proud to be a Dentist in Alabama.

President's Message

Rachael Osburn, DMD,FAGD



Greetings, Dental colleagues!

I hope that, as you are enjoying the transition to spring and the beautiful weather it brings, you are looking forward to late summer, and our annual meeting: In August, we will convene for networking and learning in the 43rd Annual Review of Dentistry, at the Sandestin Beach Resort, Florida.

Our annual conference agenda is filled with innovative learning opportunities and networking events. Some key conference sessions include:

- Dental materials education session with Dr. Howard Galzer
- Periodontal science, for the entire dental team, with Dr. Duane Keller
- Hands-on oral surgery education with Dr. Karl Koerner
- Hands-on session on use of lasers within clinical practice with Dr. Bruce Cassis
- Endodontics education session with Dr. Jerry Cymerman
- A certification course for oral conscience sedation, offered by Dr. Mike Edwards and Dr. John Cokwe
- Hands-on education session for Six Month Smiles with Dr. Chris Bowman
- Courses on embezzlement and money management with Dr. Pat Little
- An innovative approach to mandatory CPR with Dr. Scott Herndon
- Infection control training with Dr. John Coke

It is well worth noting that the individual-session fee for a number of these education sessions is typically at least double the cost of registration for our Annual Meeting! This agenda has been specifically organized to offer our membership a valuable

training and networking opportunity with an emphasis on practical, innovative, and hands-on course selections, at a reasonable cost.

In addition, you may want to note another exciting meeting also taking place this summer: The Annual National AGD Meeting will be held in Boston on July 14-17, 2016. The 2016 AGD President, W. Mark Donald, DMD, MAGD, promises that this meeting will showcase "the most futuristic and innovative techniques" for your entire office. Registration details and information for this conference may be found at AGD.org.

I hope to see each of you at the Annual Meeting in Sandestin. As your representative, I would value the opportunity to hear from you regarding your most significant challenges to practice and your thoughts on improvements we can consider as a membership organization.

Sincerely,

Rachel Osborne, DMD

President, 2016 Alabama Academy of General Dentistry



Immediate Past President Doug Beckham poses with Rachel Osborne sporting the ALAGD green jacket as the 2016 President.

Dr. Bobby Babb, on the right, installs the 2016 ALAGD Officers.

L-R: Derrick Mendez, Vice President; Rachel Osborne, President; Toni Neumier, President Elect; Bill Chesser, Editor.



SCENES OF THE ALU



The Howard Gamble lecture this year consisted of several dentists from different sections of the state including two recent graduates, each doctor giving some experiences encountered during their career. Left to right: Dr. Roibin Pruett, Birmingham; Mr. Todd Doobrow, Financial Advisor; Dr. Brandon O'Donnell, Mobile; Dr. Bud Rogers, Mobile; Dr. Derrick Mendez, Clanton; Dr. Ross Isbell Gadsden.



Dr. Osborne conducts the first official ALAGD Board meeting.



Executive Secretary Angie Gilliver with Dr. Osborne at the planning meeting in January. The first meeting that the new President will have to conduct.



Gary Myers gives his advice to the Seniors.



Gordon Isbell presides over the Howard Gamble Memorial Lecture during Alumni weekend. This will be an annual function for the graduating Seniors each year. Howard has always wanted the graduates to know the importance of organized dentistry.



The 2016 officers pose with the Tribute to Howard Gamble Display assembled by Gary Myers.

MNI MEETING 2016



Past President Doug Beckham and Executive Director Gary Myers at the Board meeting.



Gary chats with the Dean of the SOD, Dr Michael Reddy. Gary was installed as the 2016 Alumni President at this meeting.



Dr. Ross Isbell chats with Mrs. Sherry Gamble. Sherry and Howard have known Ross since he was born.



Gary Myers with wife "Scooter" at the Dean's reception.



Dr. Ray McLaughlin of Ozark, Alabama was the 2015 Alumni President. Here he addresses alumni attending the Dean's reception.



Doug Beckham makes a farewell address as ALAGD President and turns the President's position over to Rachel Osborne.



Attending the seminar are Howard's wife Sherry, Peggy Babb, and Chris Chesser. Mrs Gamble made a few comments to the seniors.



The 2016 Alabama Alumni Officers installed. Left to right: Dr. Ben Ingram, Secretary/Treasurer, Piedmont; Dr. Gary Myers, President, Birmingham; Dr. Bob Jones, President Elect, Montgomery; Dr. Stanley Beard, Vice President, Jackson.

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS OF UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY



The Strickland family joining Dad and Granddad for his acceptance of Distinguished Dental Alumnus Award.



Dr. Lyldon Strickland is awarded the Distinguished Alumnus designation by Dr. Michael Reddy Dean of the School of Dentistry.

Dr. Lyldon Strickland was named Distinguished Alumnus of UA SOD this year. There could not be anyone more deserving than Lyldon, whose picture could be in the dictionary next to the word “gentleman”. He is the original “nice guy”.

A graduate of The University of Alabama School of Dentistry in 1958, Lyldon actually chose a career in dentistry after earning a degree in Pharmacy. Thus began a Strickland Dynasty for the profession of dentistry in the city of Huntsville.

His brother, Dr. Joe Strickland, is a practicing Orthodontist, and his brother, Dr. Chalmus Strickland, was a prominent Alabama General Dentist before his untimely death several years ago. Lyldon practices with his son, Dr. Greg Strickland; his daughter, Dr. Stacy Gardner, practices with her husband, Dr. Steve Gardner. His daughter Ann Strickland is an accountant and lives in Florida.

After graduation from UA SOD, Lyldon served in the United States Air Force. He and his beloved wife Martha Jean have been married for 56 years.

Dr. Strickland has held the office of President of Alabama AGD, as well as President of the Alabama Dental Association. He has also been an Alabama ADA Delegate for many years.

Lyldon spends his spare time fishing and golfing, but claims he is not very good at either pastime. His real love is being in his office treating his patients. ***Congratulations, Dr. Lyldon Strickland!***

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W. Mark Donald, DMD, MAGD
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